

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 were pending in this application.

Claims 20 and 23-25 have been allowed.

Claims 1, 11-19, and 26 have been rejected.

Claims 2-10, 21, and 22 have been objected to.

Claims 2-5, 10-15, 19, 21, 22, and 26 have been amended as shown above.

Claims 1-26 remain pending in this application.

Reconsideration and full allowance of Claims 1-26 are respectfully requested.

I. OBJECTION TO DRAWINGS

The Office Action objects to an informality in the drawings. In particular, the Office Action notes that reference numeral 376 is used in the drawings but not in the specification. The Applicants have amended the specification as shown above to include reference numeral 376. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to the drawings.

II. OBJECTIONS TO SPECIFICATION

The Office Action objects to various informalities in the specification. In particular, the Office Action objects to various inconsistencies between the specification and the drawings. The Applicants have amended the specification to make the specification consistent with the drawings. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to the specification.

III. OBJECTIONS TO CLAIMS

The Office Action objects to various informalities in the claims. The Applicants have amended the claims as shown above to correct the noted informalities. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to the claims.

IV. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Office Action rejects Claims 11-19 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. In particular, the Office Action identifies various informalities in Claims 11, 13-15, and 26. The Applicants have amended Claims 11, 13-15, and 26 to correct the noted informalities. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 112 rejections.

V. DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTIONS

The Office Action rejects Claims 1 and 11 over the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting in light of four related patent applications. The Applicants have included Terminal Disclaimers to overcome these double patenting rejections. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the double patenting rejections.

VI. CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully assert that all pending claims in this application are in condition for allowance and respectfully request full allowance of the claims.

SUMMARY

If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Applicants respectfully invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at wmunck@davismunck.com.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this communication (including any extension of time fees) or credit any overpayment to Davis Munck Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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